

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: RON LUDWIG, Complainant, v. LEAST COST ROUTING, INC., Respondent.	DOCKET NO. FCU-00-5 (C-00-148)
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AMENDED PROCEDURAL ORDER

(Issued October 9, 2000)

On October 3, 2000, the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice (Consumer Advocate) filed a Motion for Extension of Time to File Testimony. On October 4, 2000, Least Cost Routing (LCR) filed a Motion to Extend Certain Deadlines and the Hearing Date.

A telephone conference call was held on October 9, 2000, to discuss the motions. Present by telephone were the undersigned administrative law judge, Mr. Ron Ludwig, representing himself, Ms. Jennifer Easler, representing the Consumer Advocate, and Mr. Thomas Makeig, representing LCR.

Mr. Ludwig objected to the motions for extension of time. LCR stated it needed the time to respond to, and conduct discovery. The attorney for LCR was

not retained until September 28, 2000, and he needs time to familiarize himself with the case. The Consumer Advocate had no objection to LCR's motion, and submitted its own motion for extension.

Mr. Ludwig's telephone service at his business and home numbers has been restored to his preferred carrier, Sprint. He could not identify any reason why he would be harmed by granting the requests for extension, other than to state that consumers who have to wait so long become fatigued by trying to battle the telephone companies.

Given the need of the attorney for LCR to familiarize himself with the case, and given LCR's need for adequate time to conduct discovery, the motions for extension filed by the Consumer Advocate and LCR should be granted.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The Order Establishing Procedural Schedule and Notice of Hearing issued September 20, 2000 is hereby amended as follows.
2. On or before November 3, 2000, Mr. Ludwig must file prepared direct testimony and exhibits.
3. The Consumer Advocate must file prepared testimony and exhibits on or before November 3, 2000.
4. On or before November 27, 2000, Least Cost Routing must file prepared responsive testimony and exhibits.
5. If Mr. Ludwig or the Consumer Advocate are going to file prepared rebuttal testimony and exhibits, they must do so by December 8, 2000.

6. A hearing for the presentation of evidence and the cross-examination of witnesses will be held in the Board Hearing Room, Iowa Utilities Board Office, 350 Maple Street, Des Moines, Iowa, on December 19, 2000, commencing at 10 a.m. The parties should plan to come to the hearing room at 9:45 a.m. to mark exhibits.

7. All other provisions of the Order Establishing Procedural Schedule and Notice of Hearing issued September 20, 2000, remain the same.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Amy L. Christensen
Amy L. Christensen
Administrative Law Judge

ATTEST:

/s/ Raymond K. Vawter, Jr.
Executive Secretary

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 9th day of October, 2000.